

Torrance, California  
August 8, 1950

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber of the City Hall at 8:06 p.m. on Tuesday, August 8, 1950, Mayor Haggard presiding.

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Bartlett were: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Drale, Powell, Spelman and Haggard. Also present were City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Smith.

All persons present participated in the salute to our Flag.

As first order of business, Councilman Spelman moved the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 25th be approved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried.

Councilman Drale called attention to the Council's action of July 25th in granting a permit to the Lad 'N Lassie Studio to solicit in the City, from door to door, for photographic work, which is prohibited by our ordinance and asked that the situation be corrected. Councilman Blount moved to rescind his motion of July 25th. Councilman Powell, having seconded the first motion, seconded the motion. Motion carried.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

The following were read by Clerk Bartlett:

Petition requesting the acquisition and improvement of the prolongation of Date Avenue north of Sonoma, seven parcels of land being without proper access to a street. Councilman Drale moved the City Attorney and City Manager take the necessary steps to proclaim this a public street. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from LeRoy Lloyd urging the bus depot in Los Angeles be kept open on Sundays. Councilman Powell moved the communication and the terms of the depot contract be discussed at the next agenda meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Petition signed by 65 employees requesting that the City absorb the employees' contribution of \$2.98 per month to Group Hospitalization Insurance. City Manager Stevens explained the present program and the employees' request. Councilman Powell moved the petition be held over for discussion until such time as a meeting is held to discuss other personnel requests and problems. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Letter from City Treasurer Fordice requesting authorization to make certain fund transfers. Councilman Drale moved the recommendation be accepted and the matter recorded. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from Charles T. Rippey resigning as a member of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Water District. Councilman Spelman moved the resignation be accepted. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, with the stipulation that Mr. Rippey be thanked for his services, carried unanimously.

Letter from Federal Housing Administration protesting change of zone requested in Planning Commission Case No. 162, affecting Block "A", Tract 10307 in Hollywood Riviera. Councilman Blount called the Council's attention to minutes of the Planning Commission of August 2nd wherein Mr. Mayer had withdrawn his request for change of zone. Matter of record.

Letter from the Recreation Commission urging that the County be approached on the possibility of the County continuing beach developments at Torrance Beach. Councilman Powell moved that City Manager Stevens be authorized to take the necessary steps to secure the information concerned in the communication. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

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Letter from the Planning Commission approving proposed acquisition by the Torrance Unified School District of two public areas for the purpose of erecting school facilities. Councilman Drale moved the communication be filed as a matter of record. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

Letter from the Planning Commission recommending approval of Case No. 196 -- third and final hearing on change of zone, Case No. 197 -- variance and conditional permit to enlarge dairy office of Inglewood Farms, Case No. 199 -- variance and conditional permit of Arthur W. Fisher for the processing and sale of compost plant food. As to Case No. 197, City Attorney Smith advised the Council had no authority to act if the request was to enlarge a non-conforming use. Councilman Powell moved that the Council concur with the recommendation as to Case No. 196 and that the Mayor set September 12th as the date for the third and final hearing, and that Cases 197 and 199 be referred to the City Attorney for his recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from Mr. Patrick, Assistant to City Engineer, recommending re-approval of Tract Map No. 16700, covering a portion of Tract 7873, Lot 1, due to uncertainty of building materials. Planning Commission also having re-approved the map, Councilman Drale moved the Council concur with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Letter from Mr. Patrick submitting Tract Maps 16962 and 16963 for approval, both tracts having cleared the Planning Commission on July 10th. Discussion followed as to the sump area and City Manager Stevens advised it had the approval of the County Flood Control. Councilman Powell moved the Council concur in the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

#### Recommendations of City Manager Stevens:

##### PERSONNEL:

1. That Lucille Stroh be appointed to serve as Policewoman, effective August 1, 1950, and that her compensation be at the rate set for the third step under the classification.

Councilman Blount moved the Council concur with the recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

##### APPROPRIATIONS:

1. For the purchase of paint, materials and equipment for the Paint Department, the sum of \$3,045.00.
2. For the re-location of oil company facilities located in various easements along Western Avenue, the amounts as follows:
  - a. Shell Oil Company, the sum of \$689.58.
  - b. Union Oil Company, the sum of \$56.67.
  - c. Texas Company, the sum of \$573.21.

(From right of way funds established by the County for acquisition of right of way along Western Avenue.)

3. For the purchase of Lot 5, Block "P", Tract No. 10300, the sum of \$950.00. (From Unappropriated Reserve)
4. For the installation of acoustical ceiling in the Engineering Office, the sum of \$420.00. (A Budget Item)

City Manager Stevens explained that Item 3 was an acquisition to El Retiro Park. Councilman Spelman moved the Council concur with the recommendations. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

AGREEMENTS:

1. That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to sign the following agreements:
  - a. With the County of Los Angeles for library service in the City of Torrance for the period 1950-51.
  - b. With the Los Angeles City School Districts for the sale of Bus Department school ticket books to children in the district.

Councilman Blount moved the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to sign the agreements. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

HEARINGS:

1. That the Annual Budget Hearings for the City Budget be held August 15th and 22nd, in the Council Chamber, at 8:00 p.m.
2. That a hearing be held on Ordinance No. 518 on August 15, 1950, in the Council Chamber, from 8:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Councilman Spelman moved the Council concur with the recommendations. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 2081

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE AUTHORIZING CONDITIONAL PERMIT TO  
WALTER A. KLEIN.

Councilman Drale moved further reading of the Resolution be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Drale moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2081. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2082

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR  
AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN CONTRACT  
BETWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND BARNETT, HOPEN  
& SMITH.

Councilman Drale moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Drale moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2082. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 2083

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND  
CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE THAT CERTAIN CONTRACT BE-  
TWEEN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND JAMES M. MONTGOMERY.

Councilman Powell moved further reading of the Resolution be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Blount moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2083. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 505

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE CREATING A  
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.

AB 9910

Councilman Powell moved the ordinance be referred to a meeting with the City Attorney and Council. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 522

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 462 BY THE ESTABLISHING OF A MINIMUM FLOOR AREA.

Councilman Drale moved the Ordinance be referred to the Planning Commission for its recommendation. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 524

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING LAND USE ORDINANCE NO. 316, RECLASSIFYING THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. 192.

Councilman Powell moved further reading of the Ordinance be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Powell moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 524 at its second and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 525

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE ESTABLISHING CERTAIN TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURES PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IV, ORDINANCE NO. 446.

Councilman Drale moved further reading of the Ordinance be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Drale moved for the adoption of urgency ordinance No. 525 at its first and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 526

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE CREATING AND ESTABLISHING CERTAIN POSITIONS IN THE CLASSIFIED SERVICE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE.

Councilman Powell moved the number be stricken as the Ordinance was a duplication of Ordinance No. 523 previously adopted. It was explained that Ordinance No. 526 waived the necessity of new civil service examinations for employees whose classification title had been changed but not their duties and was necessary according to Supreme Court rulings. Councilman Powell withdrew his motion and moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Powell moved for the adoption of urgency ordinance No. 526 at its first and final reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 527

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING THE RULES AND REGULATIONS SUPPLEMENTING ORDINANCE NO. 326.

Councilman Powell moved further reading of the Ordinance be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Powell moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 527 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORDINANCE NO. 528AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE ORDERING THE VACATION OF HUBER STREET.

Councilman Blount moved further reading of the Ordinance be dispensed with. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Spelman moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 528 at its first reading. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Stevens asked that the City Clerk be authorized to notify all persons who have petitioned the City, pro and con, relative to the pinball ordinance, of the hearing on August 15th. Councilman Powell so moved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

City Manager Stevens opened a discussion of Tract Map No. 16850, 82 lots in the upper area of Hollywood Riviera, submitting the matter for the Council's consideration. Members of the Council and the City Attorney participated in the discussion, resulting in a motion by Councilman Powell that the matter be held over until the meeting next Tuesday night with representatives of the Mayer Corporation, and that the Mayor be authorized to call a Special Meeting to act on the matter following next Tuesday's meeting. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried.

Councilman Blount advised he had a very important matter to bring up and stated: "We are at present in the midst of a shooting war where American boys are fighting and dying to try, in some measure, to combat the inroads of communism. I would like to move that the City Council instruct the City Clerk to discontinue the collection of union dues for Local 360, United Public Workers of America, until such time as the City employee members have severed their affiliation with the United Public Workers of America who have been declared to be communistic controlled." Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Powell, Spelman and Haggard. NAYS: COUNCILMAN: Drale.

Councilman Drale moved that an ordinance be drawn granting all employees of the City 11 holidays with pay. At the suggestion of Councilman Powell, motion was amended to include that those employees who were required to work would receive pay at time and a half. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, was defeated by the following roll call vote: AYES: Drale and Powell. NAYS: Blount, Spelman and Haggard. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None

Councilman Drale moved that an ordinance be drawn "applying for a more equitable rate increase for the lower paid men who work for the City and before the budget is adopted, the men to be advanced one step in the five-step plan." Discussion followed between Councilmen Drale and Powell and City Manager Stevens. Councilman Drale then asked that his motion be amended to include consideration of the inequities among department heads. The motion, not being clear, was restated by Councilman Drale as follows: "All employees working for the City to be advanced one step and department heads should all be paid alike." Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, was defeated by the following roll call vote: AYES: Drale and Powell. NAYS: Blount, Spelman and Haggard. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None

Councilman Drale called attention to the change in schedule and practice adopted by the Transportation Committee which, he stated, had not been brought to the attention of the Council. He also read a motion made at a meeting of the Hollywood Riviera Home Owners Ass'n rescinding its previous motion recommending withdrawal of the bus service in that area. He then moved that Hollywood Riviera be given transportation similar to that in other portions of the City. Following a brief discussion, and at the suggestion of Councilman Powell, Councilman Drale amended his motion to include Seaside Ranchos. Motion, seconded by Councilman Powell, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: Drale, Powell and Haggard. NAYS: Blount and Spelman. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None

ADJUDICATED



Councilman Drale inquired as to a letter discussed at the agenda meeting relative to mining rights at Torrance Beach. City Attorney Smith advised the Council there was no legal objection providing the property below the surface belonged to the City and was not privately owned, but that he had understood the property had been deeded or sold to the County and that the City of Torrance had only beach surface rights.

Councilman Powell moved that George W. Stevens be named, by resolution, as the City's agent for the purpose of procuring federal funds for the benefit of the Torrance Water Department. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Powell moved that George W. Stevens be appointed Director, on behalf of the City, to the Metropolitan Water Board. On being advised the appointment must come from the Mayor, with the concurrence of the Council, motion was withdrawn.

Councilman Powell asked if a letter had been prepared for the male employees of the City explaining their rights and privileges under this war emergency and was advised that such a letter had not as yet been prepared but that it would be.

Mayor Haggard then designated and appointed George W. Stevens, City Manager, to serve as a Director on the Metropolitan Water Board as representative of the City of Torrance. Councilman Powell so moved. Motion, seconded by Councilman Blount, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At 9:25 p.m., Mayor Haggard declared a 10-minute recess. Meeting reconvened at 9:35.

Stanley H. Voges, of Inglewood Farms, 3400 Del Amo, asked that the matter of their request to enlarge their dairy office be taken care of if possible. He stated he had discussed the matter with the City Attorney during recess, explaining that the non-conforming use was not being increased -- merely the dairy office building. City Attorney Smith advised the Council that if the dairy business itself was not being increased by additional cattle, etc., there would be no legal objection. Councilman Powell then moved that the Council's previous action of this evening be rescinded. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote. Councilman Powell then moved that the Council approve the recommendation of the Planning Commission as to Case No. 197, taking into consideration Mr. Voges' statement that only the office was being enlarged. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Jim Neal, of Dixie Lee Studios, asked that the license ordinance be amended as to the non-soliciting clause to permit better enforcement of the ordinance, and asked Chief of Police Stroh for his suggestion. Chief Stroh said the only suggestion he could make would be to charge non-residents about \$250, or at least high enough that they wouldn't come into Torrance. City Attorney Smith advised that such an increase in license fee, over residents, would be unconstitutional. Councilman Powell moved that a meeting be held between the Chief of Police, the License Inspector and members of the Council to become thoroughly acquainted with the License Ordinance, with the City Attorney to interpret it for them. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

Mr. H. S. Gray, of Hollywood Riviera, presented a petition with 265 signatures urging bus service in their area. Matter of record.

Mrs. R. C. Brown, of 1004 Crenshaw Blvd., urged a jitney service bus to traverse the residential district to carry people into the shopping center, with a fare of 5¢.

Councilman Powell complimented the personnel of the Fire Department on their fine work, under hazardous conditions, early Tuesday morning.

There being no further oral communications, Councilman Spelman moved all bills properly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

At 9:45 p.m., Councilman Blount moved meeting be adjourned to August 15th. Motion, seconded by Councilman Spelman, carried.

  
CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:

  
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

ADG910